CLAIMS

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1. Apparatus including:

a tampon having a tampon string, the tampon string having a first end attached to a tampon and a second, free end distal from the tampon; and

an attachment for the tampon string, the attachment comprising an accessory secured to the free end of the tampon string, the accessory providing a means for locating the free end of the tampon string and/or for preventing the free end of the tampon string from being retracted into the vagina of a user of the tampon, wherein the accessory is a length of tape forming a tab secured to the free end of the tampon string, the tape having a sticky surface.

- 2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the tab comprises a peel-off backing which, when removed, exposes the sticky surface.
- 3. Apparatus including a tampon having a tampon string having an end and a tab comprising a piece of tape secured to or adjacent the end of the tampon string, the tape having a sticky surface.
- 4. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein said tab further comprises a peel-off backing which, when removed, exposes the sticky surface.
- 5. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein said ab is a piece of tape ½ to 2 inches long and ½ to 2 inches wide secured to the string.
- 6. The apparatus according claim 3 wherein said tab is a piece of hypo-allergenic tape ½ to 2 inches wide and ½ to 2 inches long secured to the string.
- 7. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein said tab is a piece of tape which can be rolled into a cylindrical shape and unrolled to allow the use of portions of tape.
 - 8. Apparatus including:

a tampon having a tampon string, the tampon string having a first attached to a tampon and a second, free end distal from the tampon; and

an attachment for the tampon string, the tampon string having a first end attached to a tampon and a second, free end distal from the tampon, the attachment comprising a tampon extension string having an accessory secured thereto, the attachment being securable to the free end of the tampon string, the accessory providing a means for locating the free end of the tampon string and/or for preventing the free end of the tampon string from being retracted into the vagina of a user of the tampon.

- 9. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the accessory is a tab comprising a length of tape secured around an end of the tampon extension string.
- 10. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the accessory is a tassel secured to the extension string.

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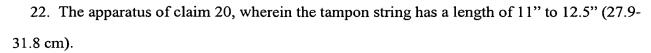
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- 11. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the accessory is a soft, hollow, spherical body having a polar axis and which is collapsible upon axial compression along its polar axis.
- 12. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the accessory is a tab comprising a length of tape secured around an end of the tampon extension string, and the tab comprises a peel-off backing which, when removed, exposes a sticky surface.
- 13. A method for altering a tampon to enhance a tampon user's ability to locate and manipulate a tampon string during urination and aid in the prevention of tampon string retraction into the user's vagina, the tampon having a tampon string with a free end distal from the tampon, comprising the steps of attaching an accessory to the free end of the tampon string, the accessory providing a means for locating the free end of the tampon string and/or for preventing the free end of the tampon string from being retracted into the vagina of a user of the tampon.
- 14. The method according to claim 13 further comprising the steps of providing an extension string attached to the accessory and securing the extension string to the tampon string.
- 15. The method according to claim 13 further comprising the step of adhering the accessory to a portion of the user's body or clothing.
- 16. The method according to claim/13/ further comprising the step of extending the length of a tampon string to between 3 and 11 inches (7.6 and 27.9 cm) long.
- 17. The method according to claim 14 further comprising the step of adhering the accessory to a portion of the user's body or clothing
- 18. The method according to claim 1 wherein the accessory is a tab comprising a length of tape secured around an end of the tampon extension string.
- 19. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the accessory is a tab comprising a length of tape secured around an end of the tampon extension string, and the tab comprises a peel-off backing which, when removed, exposes a sticky surface.
 - 20. Apparatus comprising:
 - a tampon;

a tampon string attached to the tampon, the tampon string having a first end attached to a tampon and a second, free end distal from the tampon, the tampon string having a length of 3" to 15" (7.6-38.1 cm).

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the tampon string has a length of 9" to 13" (22.9-33 cm).



- 23. Apparatus comprising:
- a tampon;

a tampon string attached to the tampon, the tampon string having a first end attached to a tampon and a second, free end distal from the tampon, the tampon string having a width of 1/8" to ½" (.32-1.3cm).

- 24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the tampon string has a width of 1/4" to 3/4" (.64-1.9cm).
- 25. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the tampon string has a width of about 3/16" (.48 cm).
- 26. The apparatus of one of claims 23-25, further comprising an accessory attached adjacent the free end of the tampon string.
- 27. The invention according to one of claims 1-19 and 26, wherein the accessory includes a piece of tape forming a tab secured to the free end of the tampon string, and the tab comprises a peel-off backing which, when removed, exposes a sticky surface.
- 28/The invention of one of claims 1-19, 26, and 27, wherein the tampon string has a length sufficient to allow the accessory to protrude from the underwear of a user.
 - 29. The invention substantially as shown and described herein.